



IBM CORPORATION
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Reid Williams
Application No.09/620,350
Filed: July 20, 2000
Attorney Docket Number: AUS990912US1
Title: System Apparatus and Method for
Updating Security Configurations of a Plurality
of Servers from Centralized Directory Server

DECISION REFUSING STATUS
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.47(b)

This is in response to the petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.47(b), filed October 16, 2007.

Rule 47 applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this decision to reply, correcting the below-noted deficiencies. Any reply should be entitled "Request for Reconsideration of Petition Under 37 C.F.R. §1.47(b)," and should only address the deficiencies noted below, except that the reply may include an oath or declaration executed by the non-signing inventor. **Failure to respond will result in abandonment of the application.** Any extensions of time will be governed by 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a).

The above-identified application was filed on July 20, 2000, without an executed oath or declaration, and naming William Reid as the sole inventor.

A grantable petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.47(b) requires: (1) proof that the non-signing inventor cannot be reached or refuses to sign the oath or declaration; (2) an acceptable oath or declaration; (3) the petition fee; (4) a statement of last known address of the non-signing inventor; (5) proof of proprietary interest; and (6) a showing that such action is necessary to preserve the rights of parties or to prevent irreparable damage. Rule 47 applicant has failed to establish (2), (5), and (6).

An Acceptable Oath or Declaration

As to item (2), applicant failed to submit a properly executed oath or declaration with the petition. In addition to including the non-signing inventor's information, the granting of 47 status requires a rule 47 (b) applicant to make the oath required by 37 CFR §1.63 and §1.64. Where applicant is a corporation, an officer of the corporation normally is required to sign the oath or declaration. The declaration must state the full name, residence, post office address, and citizenship of the non-signing inventor. The title or position of the person signing must also be stated if signing on behalf of a corporation under 37 CFR §1.47(b). See MPEP 409.03(b). A corporation may authorize any person, including an attorney or agent registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and

Trademark Office, to sign the application oath or declaration on its behalf. Where an oath or declaration is signed by a registered attorney or agent on behalf of a corporation, either proof of the attorney's or agent's authority in the form of a statement signed by an appropriate corporate officer must be submitted, or the attorney or agent may simply state that he or she is authorized to sign on behalf of the corporation.

Although the last known address of the non-signing inventor has been provided in the petition, the declaration fails to include the mailing address as required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63 (c)(1).

Proof of Proprietary Interest

As to item (5), petitioner has provided evidence the inventor has agreed in writing to assign the invention to the applicant. A typical agreement to assign is an employment agreement where an employee (nonsigning inventor) agrees to assign to his or her employer (37 CFR 1.47(b) applicant) all inventions made during employment. When such an agreement is relied on, it must be established by a statement of a person having firsthand knowledge of the facts that the invention was made by the employee while employed by the 37 CFR 1.47(b) applicant. See MPEP 409.03(f) Petitioner has failed to provide a statement of a person having first hand knowledge that inventor Reid was employed at the time of the invention.

Showing That Such Action Is Necessary to Preserve the Rights of Parties or to Prevent Irreparable Damage.

As to item (6), applicant has failed to provide a statement that the granting of rule 47 status is necessary to preserve the rights of the rule 47 applicant or prevent irreparable damage. See MPEP 409.03(h).

There is no indication that the person signing the instant petition was ever given a power of attorney or authorization of agent to prosecute the above-identified application. If the person signing the instant petition desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney or authorization of agent must be submitted. While a courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the person signing the present petition, all future correspondence will be directed to the address currently of record until such time as appropriate instructions are received to the contrary.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By facsimile: (571) 273-8300

By delivery service: **U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**

(FedEx, UPS, DHL, etc.)

Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Petition
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to the undersigned at
(571) 272-3215.



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